

DAC
#

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/122,274
Filing Date	July 24, 1998
Inventor(s)	Robert M. HONEYCUTT et al.
Group Art Unit	2817
Examiner Name	B. Simmons
Attorney Docket Number	29250-002007/US

RECEIVED

JUL 18 2005

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to the Official Draftsperson and _____ Sheets of Formal Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.181... <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER SUBMITTING APPEAL BRIEF AND APPEAL BRIEF (w/clean version of pending claims) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Notice of Appeal, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): -Copy of After Final Response filed 12/18/2000, with facsimile transmittal		
<table><tr><td>Remarks</td><td></td></tr></table>			Remarks	
Remarks				

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Gary D. Yacura	Reg. No.	35,416
Signature					
Date	July 14, 2005				

--



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 29250-002007/US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Robert M. HONEYCUTT et al. CONF. NO.: 4219

SERIAL NO.: 09/122,274

GROUP: 2817

FILED: July 24, 1998

EXAMINER: B. Simmons

FOR: IMPROVED RF/MICROWAVE STRIPLINE STRUCTURES
AND METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE SAME

RECEIVED

JUL 18 2005

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

**PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.181 TO WITHDRAW
HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT**

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Mail Stop Petition

July 14, 2005

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby respectfully petitions under the provisions 37 C.F.R. §1.181 and M.P.E.P. §711.03(c) for a decision to withdraw the holding of abandonment in the subject application.

On November 6, 2000, the Patent Office issued a final Office Action.

On December 18, 2000, Applicants' prior representative filed an After Final Response by facsimile. A copy of this After Final Response, along with the facsimile transmittal sheet for the After Final Response, is attached hereto. It should be additionally noted that the last page of the After Final Response includes the Certificate of Facsimile Transmission.

07/15/2005 JADD01 00000077 080750 09122274

01 FC:1464 130.00 DA

At the end of January 2004, representation of the above-identified application was transferred to the undersigned. Shortly thereafter, the undersigned filed both a Revocation of Power of Attorney, Substitute Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address, and a Status Inquiry.

On April 6, 2004, a Notice of Acceptance of Power of Attorney was issued by the Patent Office and received by Applicants' representative on April 9, 2004.

The file transferred to the undersigned did not include any indication of abandonment for failure to respond to an Office Action, and the Patent Office never responded to the Status Inquiry filed by the undersigned on February 17, 2004.

After failing to receive any response from the Patent Office, the undersigned accessed the Private PAIR system to ascertain information regarding the application, and only then, on July 12, 2005, discovered that the status of the subject application was abandoned for failure to respond to the June 8, 2001 Office Action.

From the facts above, it is clear that the abandonment of the present application was unavoidable and due solely to problems with the docketing of the December 18, 2000 After Final Response submitted by Applicants' previous representative. Furthermore, from the facts given above, this petition is being timely filed for the purpose of petitioning withdrawal of the abandonment in view of the above stated facts.

Further, in view of the facts stated above, it is believed that no petition fee is necessary in connection with this petition. In the event that the petition fee is deemed necessary by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, it is respectfully requested that the fee of \$130.00 as set forth in 35 U.S.C. §1.17(h)(1) be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Additionally, if the Patent Office decides that for this petition to be fully responsive that the petition include a Request for Continued Examination in which the Amendment filed on December 18, 2000 is entered, then Applicants respectfully request that the Patent Office further consider this petition to include such a Request for Continued Examination along with entry of the After Final Response filed December 18, 2000, and charge all necessary fees associated with the Request for Continued Examination (including any required extension of time fees) to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

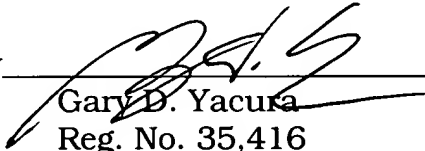
If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, PLC

By


Gary D. Yacura
Reg. No. 35,416

GDY:jcp

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, VA 20195
(703) 668-8000

LAW OFFICES OF JEAN-MARC ZIMMERMAN
226 ST. PAUL STREET
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07090
TEL: (908) 654-8000 FAX: (908) 654-7207



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks	Jean-Marc Zimmerman, Esq.
COMPANY:	DATE:
U.S.P.T.O., Art Unit 2817	December 18, 2000
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING TRANSMITTAL SHEET:
(703) 308-7724	17
RE:	TIME SENT:
Pat. App. 09/122,274	3:15 PM

☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

This facsimile transmission contains confidential and/or legally privileged information intended only for the use of the individual(s) named on this sheet. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying or distribution of this information or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this facsimile transmission is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please contact us immediately by telephone so that we can arrange for the return of the documents to us at no cost to you.



LAW OFFICES OF
JEAN-MARC ZIMMERMAN

226 ST. PAUL STREET
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07090

TEL: (908) 654-8000

FAX: (908) 654-7207

E-MAIL: jinzlaw@aol.com

December 18, 2000

VIA FACSIMILE

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/122,274 for Improved RF
Microwave Stripline Structures and Method for Fabricating Same

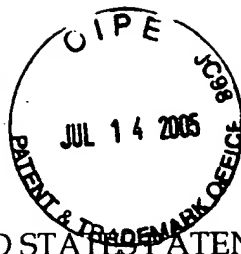
Dear Sir:

Attached please find an Amendment responsive to the Office Action
received in connection with the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean-Marc Zimmerman
Registration No. 36,978

JMZ/id
enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Honeycutt	:	Group Art Unit: 2817
Serial No. 09/122,274	:	Examiner: B. Summons
Filed: July 24, 1998	:	Date: December 18, 2000
For: IMPROVED RF/MICROWAVE	:	
STRIPLINE STRUCTURES AND	:	
METHOD FOR FABRICATING	:	
SAME	:	

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action received in connection with the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, line 19 to page 7, line 4 with the following.

As shown in FIGS. 1 and 4, bottom cover 14 includes a pair of RF connectors 20 and 22 which protrude through holes 30 and 32 shown in FIG. 3. The RF connectors 20 and [24] 22 are soldered to the PWB 18 at two of the plated through holes 44, and are bonded to the bottom cover 14 using epoxy, solder or welding. Alternatively, the RF connectors 20 and [24] 22 can be coupled to the PWB 18 and the bottom cover 14 by means surface mount or through hole

Serial No. 09/122,274

connectors mounted directly on the PWB 18. In addition, the RF connectors 20 and [24] 22 can be coupled through any side of filter 10.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (AMENDED) An improved stripline structure, comprising:

a sheet metal enclosure including top and bottom sheet metal covers for housing a stripline structure; [and]

a primary printed wiring board (PWB) disposed horizontally between the top and bottom sheet metal covers, and extending across the interior of the enclosure, the primary PWB including a plurality of conductive transmission lines wherein the primary PWB has a top layer and a bottom layer, the conductive transmission lines being formed on both the top layer and the bottom layer, and wherein the primary PWB includes a series of plated through holes for electrically coupling the conductive transmission lines formed on both sides of the primary PWB; and

a pair of RF/microwave connectors electrically coupled to the primary PWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series.

16. (AMENDED) The improved stripline structure according to Claim [1] 15, wherein the [improved] cross coupled RF filter is configured for operating at

Serial No. 09/122,274

high power up to 1 kW. -----

17. (AMENDED) The improved stripline structure according to Claim [1] 15, wherein the [improved] cross coupled RF filter is configured for operating at large bandwidths up to 50 GHz.

18. (AMENDED) An improved cross coupled radio frequency (RF) filter comprising:

a sheet metal enclosure including top and bottom sheet metal covers for housing a cross coupled RF filter, each one of the top and bottom covers having a plurality of flanges extending outwardly therefrom;

a primary printed wiring board (PWB) having a top layer and a bottom layer, the primary PWB being horizontally disposed between the top and bottom covers and extending across the interior of the enclosure, the primary PWB being coupled to the plurality of top and bottom cover flanges, and the primary PWB having a plurality of conductive RF transmission lines, wherein the plurality of conductive RF transmission lines are formed on both sides of the primary PWB, and wherein the primary PWB includes a series of plated through holes for electrically coupling the conductive RF transmission lines on both sides of the primary PWB;

[input and output electrical] a pair of RF/microwave connectors

Serial No. 09/122,274

...electrically coupled to the primary PWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series; and

a secondary PWB mounted inside the enclosure, the secondary PWB having at least one conductive RF transmission line spaced apart from and parallel to the conductive RF transmission lines on the primary PWB.

22. (AMENDED) The improved cross coupled RF filter according to Claim 18, wherein the improved cross coupled RF filter is configured for operating at high power up to 1 kW.

23. (AMENDED) The improved cross coupled RF filter according to Claim 18, wherein the improved cross coupled RF filter is configured for operating at large bandwidths up to 50 GHz.

Please also cancel Claims 2, 4, 8 and 9.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-7 and 10-27 are pending in this application.

Claims 2, 4, 8 and 9 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 16, 17, 18, 22 and 23 have been amended.

Drawings

In the section of the Office Action entitled "Drawings", the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Examiner's objection states that "the plurality of alignment pegs (see claim 4) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). In response, Claim 4 has been cancelled. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) should be withdrawn.

Specification

In the section of the Office Action entitled "Specification", the Examiner objected to the specification for informalities and stated that on page 7, line 4, "24" should be corrected to -22-. In response, the Applicant has amended the specification in the manner as suggested by the Examiner and other occurrences in the same paragraph when appropriate. Accordingly, the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

Claims

Claim Objections

In the section of the Office Action entitled "Claim Objections" the Examiner objected to Claims 22 and 23 for informalities and stated "after 'improved', insert - cross coupled RF filter --. In response, the Applicant amended Claims 22 and 23 substantially in the manner as suggested by the Examiner. Only "cross coupled RF" has been added since "filter" immediately follows "improved." Accordingly, the objection of Claims 22 and 23 should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

In the section of the Office Action entitled "Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C.

Serial No. 09/122,274

§112", the Examiner rejected Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite and states "the improved filter" lacks antecedent basis. In response, Claims 16 and 17 have been amended to correct the lack of antecedent basis by deleting "improved" and adding --cross coupled RF--. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by
Brunner (DT 3320-789 A)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brunner (DT 3320-789 A). In response, Claim 1 has been amended to better clarify Applicant's invention. Also, limitations from Claims 8 and 9 have been added to Claim 1 in addition to *a pair of RF/microwave connectors*.

Brunner does not teach "*a pair of RF/microwave connectors electrically coupled to the primary PWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series,*" as now claimed. In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Claim 1 is allowable over Brunner and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn. Since Claim 3, 5-7 and 16-17 depend from independent Claim 1, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claim 1, these dependent claims are also allowable over the Brunner and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Applicant observes that Claim 9 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brunner (DT '789) in view of Onishi (JP '001). However, Onishi does not teach the deficiencies described above in relation amended Claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brunner (DT '789) in view of Onishi (JP '001) should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by
Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 16, 17 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802). In response, Claim 1 has been amended to better clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 2 and 4 have been cancelled. Also limitations from Claims 8 and 9 have been added to Claim 1 in addition to *a pair of RF/microwave connectors*.

Dyer et al. does not teach "*a pair of RF/microwave connectors electrically coupled to the primary PVWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series,*" as now claimed. In contrast to Applicant's invention, the conductive posts 16 of Dyer are joined to ground as described in column 4, lines 53-58, and are not RF/microwave connectors. Furthermore, neither of the top and bottom sheets of Dyer have "*pair of RF/microwave connectors*" being coupled in the manner as claimed.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Claim 1 is allowable over Dyer and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn. Since Claim 5-7 and 16-17 depend from independent Claim 1, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claim 1, these dependent claims are also allowable over the Dyer and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claims 10-12 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Gu et al. ('366). However, Gu et al. does not teach the deficiencies described above in relation amended Claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 10-12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Gu et al. ('366) should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, with regard to Claim 11, Dyer et al. in view of Gu et al. does

Serial No. 09/122,274

not teach "a secondary PWB mount fabricated from sheet metal for coupling the secondary PWB to the interior of the top cover," as claimed. (Emphasis added). More specifically, Gu et al. does not teach a secondary PWB mount.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Brunner (DT '789). However, Dyer et al. as modified by Brunner does not teach the deficiencies described above in relation to amended Claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Brunner (DT '789) should be withdrawn.

Claims 14-15 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802). However, modified Dyer et al. does not teach the deficiencies described above in relation to amended Claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 14-15 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) should be withdrawn.

With regard to Claim 24, Applicant traverses the Examiner's rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 24 reads as follows:

24. A method for fabricating an improved RF/microwave stripline structure, comprising the steps of:
folding a pair of sheet metal members into top and bottom covers;
positioning a primary printed wiring board (PWB) having
conductive transmission lines between the top and bottom covers while
coupling a pair of RF/microwave connectors to both the primary PWB and
to the bottom cover; and
coupling the top and bottom covers to the primary PWB.

Dyer does not teach the above emphasized claim language. Dyer shows folded flanges on sheets 15 which couple to outer conductor 25. Thus, the folded flanges are not coupled to the primary PWB. Dyer also provides conductive posts 16 which couple together the top cover, the PWB and the bottom cover. Applicant observes that the Examiner states:

Serial No. 09/122,274

Dyer et al. also teaches that the metal sheet covers 15 and 15' may be having side plates integral with a sheet 15 and 15' (i.e. folded sheet metal covers) instead of using posts/pegs 16.

However, the language in Claim 24 also claims "positioning a primary printed wiring board (PWB) having conductive transmission lines between the top and bottom covers while coupling a pair of RF/microwave connectors to both the primary PWB and to the bottom cover". (Emphasis added) This additional coupling of RF/microwave connectors during the positioning step is not described or illustrated by Dyer. In contrast to Applicant's invention, the conductive posts 16 of Dyer are joined to ground as described in column 4, lines 53-58, and are not RF/microwave connectors. Furthermore, neither of the top and bottom sheets relied upon by the Examiner for the top and bottom covers of Applicant's claim have "pair of RF/microwave connectors" being coupled in the manner as claimed.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Claim 24 is allowable over Dyer and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn. Since Claim 25 depends from independent Claim 24, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claim 24, this dependent claim is also allowable over the Dyer and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claim 25 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Gu et al. ('366). However, Gu et al. does not teach the deficiencies described above in relation Dyer et al. as applied to Claim 24. Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 25 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Gu et al. ('366) should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by
Unno (JP 62-130001 A)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

Serial No. 09/122,274

anticipated by Unno (JP 62-130001 A). In response Claim 1 has been amended to better clarify Applicant's invention. Also, limitations from Claims 8 and 9 have been added to Claim 1 in addition to *a pair of RF/microwave connectors*.

Unno does not teach "*a pair of RF/microwave connectors electrically coupled to the primary PWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series,*" as now claimed.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Claim 1 is allowable over Unno and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn. Since Claims 10-12 depend from independent Claim 1, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claim 1, these dependent claims are also allowable over the Unno and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

With regard to Claim 11, Unno does not teach "*a secondary PWB mount fabricated from sheet metal for coupling the secondary PWB to the interior of the top cover,*" as claimed. (Emphasis added).

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brunner (DT 3320-789 A) in view of Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802)

The Examiner rejected Claims 2, 4, 24 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brunner (DT 3320-789 A) in view of Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802). Applicant traverses the rejection of Claims 24 and 26 for the reasons set forth below. Claims 2 and 4 have been cancelled.

With regard to Claims 24 and 26, the Examiner states that:

Brunner lacks input and output connectors for coupling the primary PWB. However, it should be noted that input and output terminals are necessary to pass a signal in the device of Brunner.

The Examiner relies on connectors 23 and 26 of Dyer. However, the language in Claim 24 provides "positioning a primary printed wiring board (PWB)

Serial No. 09/122,274

having conductive transmission lines between the top and bottom covers while coupling a pair of RF/microwave connectors to both the primary PWB and to the bottom cover".

(Emphasis added) This additional coupling of RF/microwave connectors during the positioning step is not described or illustrated by Dyer. In contrast to Applicant's invention, the conductive posts 16 of Dyer are joined to ground as described in column 4, lines 53-58, and are not RF/microwave connectors. Dyer also does not teach that inner conductor 24 is coupled during the positioning step or vice versa.

It should be noted that the positioning step of Claim 26 is more specific than Claim 24. Thus, the foregoing remarks regarding Claim 24 also apply to Claim 26.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Claims 24 and 26 are allowable over the combination of Brunner as modified by Dyer and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn. Since Claims 25 and 27 depends from independent Claims 24 and 26, respectively, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claims 24 and 26, these dependent claim are also allowable over the combination of Brunner as modified by Dyer and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over
Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802) in view of Brunner (DT 3320-789 A)

The Examiner rejected Claims 3 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802) in view of Brunner (DT 3320-789 A). Applicant traverses the rejection of Claim 26 for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 26 reads as follows:

26. A method for fabricating an improved radio frequency filter, comprising the steps of:
folding a pair of sheet metal members into top and bottom filter covers, the top and bottom filter covers each having a plurality of flanges

Serial No. 09/122,274

extending outwards therefrom;

positioning a primary printed wiring board (PWB) having conductive RF transmission lines onto the plurality of flanges of the bottom filter cover while coupling a pair of RF connectors to both the primary PWB and to the bottom cover; and

coupling the top and bottom covers to the primary PWB by securing the plurality of top cover flanges to the top of the primary PWB and securing the plurality of bottom cover flanges to the bottom of the primary PWB.

Dyer et al., Brunner, and the combination of Dyer et al. in view of Brunner do not teach the above emphasized claim language. The Examiner states:

Dyer et al. does not show the top and bottom sheet metal covers having a plurality of flanges instead of posts 16 for coupling the PWB.

Brunner (fig. 1) discloses a stripline structure having top and bottom sheet metal covers having a plurality of flanges for coupling the PWB.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to provide a plurality of flanges on the covers 15, 15' instead of posts 16 in the device of Dyer et al. to hold/couple the PWB since they are functionally equivalent.

First, Applicant observes that the modification of Dyer with the flanges of Brunner would render Dyer inoperable since the covers 15 and 15' already have flanges for coupling to outer conductor 25.

Second, conductive posts 16 of Dyer are used to connect the covers 15, 15' and PWB to ground.

Third, Dyer does not teach "positioning a primary printed wiring board (PWB) having conductive RF transmission lines onto the plurality of flanges of the bottom filter cover while coupling a pair of RF connectors to both the primary PWB and to the bottom cover." (Emphasis added). The Examiner's attention is directed to comments already set forth above in relation to the teaching of Dyer.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Claim 26 is allowable over the combination of Dyer as modified by Brunner and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn. Since Claim 27 depends from

Serial No. 09/122,274

independent Claim 26, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claim 26, this dependent claim are also allowable.

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Brunner (DT '789) as applied to claims 3 and 26, and further in view of Gu et al. ('366). However, Gu et al. does not teach the deficiencies described above in relation to the combination of Dyer et al. in view of Brunner as applied to Claim 26. Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 27 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (802) in view of Brunner (DT '789) as applied to claims 3 and 26, and further in view of Gu et al. ('366) should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over
Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802) in view of Brunner (DT 3320-789 A)
and Gu et al. (US 5,621,366)

The Examiner rejected Claims 18-23 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dyer et al. (US 2,984,802) in view of Brunner (DT 3320-789 A) and Gu et al. (US 5,621,366). In response, Applicant has amended independent Claim 18 to better clarify Applicant's invention.

Amended Claim 18 reads as follows:

18. *An improved cross coupled radio frequency (RF) filter comprising:*

a sheet metal enclosure including top and bottom sheet metal covers for housing a cross coupled RF filter, each one of the top and bottom covers having a plurality of flanges extending outwardly therefrom;

a primary printed wiring board (PWB) having a top layer and a bottom layer, the primary PWB being horizontally disposed between the top and bottom covers and extending across the interior of the enclosure, the primary PWB being coupled to the plurality of top and bottom cover flanges, and the primary PWB having a plurality of conductive RF transmission lines, wherein the plurality of conductive RF transmission lines are formed on both sides of the primary PWB, and wherein the primary PWB includes a series of plated through holes for electrically coupling the conductive RF transmission lines on both sides of the

Serial No. 09/122,274

primary PWB;

a pair of RF/microwave connectors electrically coupled to the primary PWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series; and

a secondary PWB mounted inside the enclosure, the secondary PWB having at least one conductive RF transmission line spaced apart from and parallel to the conductive RF transmission lines on the primary PWB. (Emphasis added)

Neither Dyer, Brunner, Gu nor the combination of Dyer in view of Brunner and Gu et al. teach the above emphasized claim language. More specifically, none of the cited references teach "a pair of RF/microwave connectors electrically coupled to the primary PWB and to the bottom sheet metal cover via a pair of plated through holes of said series," as now claimed. The posts 16 are not connected

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, amended Claim 18 is allowable over the combination of Dyer as modified by Brunner and Gu and the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn. Since Claims 19-23 depends from independent Claim 18, then for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claim 18, this dependent claim are also allowable.

With regard to Claim 19, Applicant further observes that the combination of Dyer as modified by Brunner and Gu does not teach "a secondary PWB mount fabricated from sheet metal for coupling the secondary PWB to the interior of the top cover," as claimed. (Emphasis added) Gu does not teach a mount fabricated from sheet metal.



CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, the Applicant believes that they have overcome all of the Examiner's basis for rejection, and that this application therefore stands in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that such action can not be taken, the Applicant requests that he contact their undersigned attorney at (908) 654-8000 in order to resolve any outstanding issues without the necessity of issuing another Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean-Marc Zimmerman
Jean-Marc Zimmerman, Esq.
Reg. No. 36,978
226 St. Paul Street
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
(908) 654-8000

Dated: December 18, 2000
Westfield, New Jersey

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that on December 18, 2000 I caused an Amendment for U.S. Patent Application Serial No 09/122,274 to be sent by facsimile to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jean-Marc Zimmerman
Jean-Marc Zimmerman

P. 01

TRANSACTION REPORT

DEC-18-00 MON 4:02 PM

FOR:

DATE	START	RECEIVER	TX TIME	PAGES	TYPE	NOTE
DEC-18	4:02 PM	17033087724	7' 11"	17	SEND	OK

JUL 14 2005

MARK OFFICE